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Drivers- and Limits

'We are the future': understanding adolescents' intentions to commute by car or bicycle as adults

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This study focuses on the intentions of adolescents to commute by car or bicycle as adults, as key elements towards promoting societal transition towards sustainable modes. The behavioral model is based on the theory of planned behavior combined with positive current travel experience, willingness to accept car restrictions, transport-related future vision, environmental concern and social influence. Data are retrieved from a survey among 15-years old Danish adolescents, and are analyzed with structural equation models. Results show: (i) car use intentions are positively related to positive car passenger experience, general interest in cars, and car-ownership norms, and are negatively related to willingness to accept car restrictions and perceived lack of behavioral control; (ii) cycling intentions are positively related to positive cycling experience, willingness to accept car restrictions, negative attitudes towards cars, and bicycle-oriented future vision, and are negatively related to car-ownership norms; (iii) attitudinal constructs are related to individual characteristics, such as gender, residential location, current mode choice to daily activities, and parental travel patterns.